

GENERAL

1. US-UK views on Italian Colonies question--US Ambassador Jessup in New York reports that the British delegate to the UN, in a review of all aspects of the current status of the Italian Colonies question, apparently agrees with the US that:
(a) the present sub-committee draft on Libya will present no obstacle to the attainment of an Anglo-Cyrenaican defense treaty; (b) the original US proposal regarding Eritrea has not the slightest chance of being approved; (c) the US compromise proposal for Eritrea is probably the only solution short of postponement which could receive General Assembly approval and at the same time be acceptable to Ethiopia; and (d) a two-thirds majority vote in the Assembly for Italian trusteeship for Somaliland hangs on the thinnest of margins.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that in view of Foreign Secretary Bevin's strong belief that the present sub-committee draft on Libya would be prejudicial to British objectives in Cyrenaica the British may not support the present text when it comes up for vote in the full committee.)

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